

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Previously Presented) An improved blade for a shovel having an elongated handle, the blade comprising:

a scoop portion having a width, a length, and a leading edge furthest away from the handle;
a plurality of concave scallops on the leading edge, each scallop defining a segment of a single circle; and

wherein the segments intersect at distinct forward points in a straight line generally perpendicular to the handle.

2. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein:

the width of the scoop portion ranges between 6 and 24 inches; and

the number of scallops ranges between 3 and 12.

3. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein:

the points are spaced apart by a distance 'd'; and

the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than $d/2$.

4. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein:

the points are spaced apart by a distance 'd'; and

the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is substantially equal to 'd'.

5. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein:

the points are spaced apart by a distance 'd'; and

the radius of each scallop, 'r,' is greater than 'd'.

6. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the scallops are substantially identical.

7. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for snow shoveling.

8. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion includes stiffening ribs.

9. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for gardening.

10. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the scoop portion is configured for ice scraping.

11. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge is attached to the scoop portion.

12. (Currently Amended) The improved blade for a shovel of claim 1, wherein the leading edge and scoop portion are constructed from dissimilar materials.